

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method of trimming a balloon of a balloon catheter, the method comprising:

creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping a member around the balloon such that spaced-apart loops of the member wrapped around the balloon compress the balloon leaving uncompressed portions of the balloon between the spaced apart loops of the member wrapped around the balloon to form the protrusions on the balloon;

leaving the member wrapped around the balloon for a predetermined period of time; and

removing the member from the balloon after the predetermined period of time.

2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising heating the balloon during at least one of the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon and the leaving the member wrapped around the balloon for the predetermined period of time.

3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the member wrapped around the balloon is constructed of one of polytetrafluorethylene or polyurethane.

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 3, further comprising folding the balloon prior to the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon.

5. (Original) The method according to claim 4, further comprising the following steps prior to the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon:

introducing a tube of balloon material into a balloon forming mold;

forming the tube of balloon material into a balloon shape; and

taking the balloon out of the mold.

6. (Original) The method according to claim 5, further comprising attaching the balloon to a catheter tubing.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the folding of the balloon, the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon and the removing the member from the balloon after the predetermined period of time are achieved manually.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 6, wherein the folding of the balloon, the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon and the removing the member from the balloon after the predetermined period of time are achieved by a machine.

9. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the member wrapped around the balloon is constructed of one of polytetrafluorethylene or polyurethane.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising folding the balloon prior to the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 10, further comprising the following steps prior to the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon:

introducing a tube of balloon material into a balloon forming mold;

forming the tube of balloon material into a balloon shape; and

taking the balloon out of the mold.

12. (Original) The method according to claim 11, further comprising attaching the balloon to a catheter tubing.

13. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the folding of the balloon, the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon and the removing the member from the balloon after the predetermined period of time are achieved manually.

14. (Original) The method according to claim 12, wherein the folding of the balloon, the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon and the removing the member from the balloon after the predetermined period of time are achieved by a machine.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the following steps prior to the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon:

introducing a tube of balloon material into a balloon forming mold;

forming the tube of balloon material into a balloon shape; and

taking the balloon out of the mold.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 1, further comprising attaching the balloon to a catheter tubing.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon and the removing the member from the balloon after the predetermined period of time are achieved manually.

18. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the creating protrusions on the balloon by wrapping the member around the balloon and the removing the member from the balloon after the predetermined period of time are achieved by a machine.

19. (Withdrawn) A balloon catheter comprising:

a foldable and expandable balloon having protrusions on the balloon, the protrusions being created by wrapping a member around the balloon such that spaced-apart loops of the member wrapped around the balloon compress the balloon leaving uncompressed portions of the balloon between the spaced apart loops of the member wrapped around the balloon to form the protrusions on the balloon; leaving the member wrapped around the balloon for a predetermined period of time; and removing the member from the balloon after the predetermined period of time.

20. (Withdrawn) The balloon catheter according to claim 19, wherein the balloon is heated during at least one of the wrapping the member around the balloon and the leaving the member wrapped around the balloon for the predetermined period of time.